

ELECTIONS. PRIMARIES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.

PROP

62

ARGUMENT Against Proposition 62

Proposition 62 is NOT reform. It RESTRICTS VOTER CHOICE, makes the Legislature LESS ACCOUNTABLE and greatly damages California democracy. Vote NO on 62.

The special interests behind Prop. 62 want California to join Louisiana as the only state in the nation with a bizarre system based on Louisiana law that SEVERELY RESTRICTS voter choice in November elections.

There's a reason NO OTHER STATE has such a system—it's deeply flawed and undemocratic!

It helped Ku Klux Klan Leader David Duke run for Governor and has resulted in Louisiana having one of the LOWEST VOTER TURNOUTS in the nation. We shouldn't pattern California on Louisiana's bad laws.

Here's how Prop. 62 would undermine your vote:

In primary elections, all candidates would appear in a long list on the same ballot. Only the top two vote-getters, regardless of political party, would be allowed on the November ballot. In many races, YOUR ONLY CHOICE WILL BE TWO CANDIDATES FROM THE SAME PARTY.

If Prop. 62 had been in effect since 2000, over 350 candidates would have been barred from the November ballot. Those candidates received over 8.2 million votes—votes that would be BANNED by Prop. 62.

Democrats could be forced to vote for a Republican in many races, or not vote at all. Likewise, Republicans could be forced to vote for Democrats. That's not choice and it's not democracy.

Other smaller parties—Greens, Libertarians, American Independent, Peace & Freedom, and Natural Law—would all effectively be FORCED OFF THE NOVEMBER BALLOT.

WE NEED CHOICES AND ACCOUNTABILITY. INSTEAD, PROP. 62 INTRODUCES LOUISIANA'S DEEPLY FLAWED SYSTEM THAT ELIMINATES CHOICE AND MAKES THE LEGISLATURE LESS ACCOUNTABLE.

Currently, we have a diverse Legislature with a representative number of Latino, Asian, and African Americans serving, as well as a good mix of men and women.

Under Prop. 62, that DIVERSITY COULD BE UNDERMINED. The Legislature could be dominated by VERY WEALTHY SPECIAL INTERESTS.

Who is paying for 62? A small group of millionaires who have LOST at the ballot box and now want to change the rules to manipulate primary elections and limit YOUR choice in General Elections, giving themselves a better chance to win.

Don't let them get away with stealing your choice and your vote.

Conservative, moderate, and liberal public interest organizations are working together to urge you to vote NO on 62.

COMMON CAUSE, THE HOWARD JARVIS TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION, THE LATINO COALITION, THE LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS, AND THE CENTER FOR VOTING AND DEMOCRACY all say NO to 62. The Congress of California Seniors and California Federation of Teachers also say NO.

ALL SEVEN POLITICAL PARTIES, WHO RARELY AGREE ON ANYTHING, URGE YOU TO VOTE NO ON 62.

Prop. 62 would:

- Eliminate voter choice in General Elections
- Force Green, Libertarian, and other political parties off the November ballot
- Make it harder for women and minorities to win elections
- Make the Legislature less accountable

Protect your VOTE and our DEMOCRACY—vote NO on 62.

MARY BERGAN, *President*

California Federation of Teachers

MARIO RODRIGUEZ, *Chairman*

The Latino Coalition

JON COUPAL, *President*

Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

REBUTTAL to Argument Against Proposition 62

Everything you've just read in the opponents' arguments against Prop. 62 are misleading scare tactics.

They claim they're protecting your right to vote. FACT: *THEY'RE TRYING TO DENY YOU THE RIGHT TO VOTE FOR ANY CANDIDATE YOU CHOOSE, REGARDLESS OF PARTY.*

They claim Proposition 62 is a scary new thing. FACT: CALIFORNIA VOTERS OVERWHELMINGLY PASSED ELECTION REFORM IN 1996, WINNING 60% OF THE VOTE AND CARRYING ALL 58 COUNTIES.

They claim the Voter Choice Primary has something to do with Louisiana. FACT: IT'S MODELED AFTER THE WAY CALIFORNIANS HAVE ELECTED OUR LOCAL OFFICIALS FOR ALMOST 100 YEARS.

They claim the Voter Choice Primary will reduce diversity. FACT: THE PRIMARY SYSTEM USED IN 1998 AND 2000 INCREASED WOMEN AND MINORITY LEGISLATORS.

They claim this is about David Duke. FACT: A former KKK Grand Wizard and John Birch Society members have been nominated THROUGH CLOSED PRIMARIES here in California. Proposition 62 guards AGAINST extremism.

That's why the deceitful efforts against Prop. 62 led

by the party bosses, legislative leaders, and special interests have been described as:

- a "smelly stunt" (*Los Angeles Times*, 6/28/04)
- "sneaky—legislative maneuvering" and "an unvarnished effort to undermine" the Voter Choice Open Primary initiative (*San Jose Mercury News*, 6/25/04)
- "a remarkable display of audacity...using a full array of fairness-flouting tactics" (*San Francisco Chronicle*, 6/23/04)

Had enough?!

VISIT WWW.OPENPRIMARY.ORG FOR THE FACTS.

JOIN SENATOR JOHN MCCAIN IN SUPPORTING PROP. 62. Take power away from the party bosses! VOTE YES on 62!

LEON PANETTA, *Former White House Chief of Staff to President Clinton*

JULIE PUENTES, *Executive Vice-President Orange County Business Council*

HARRIET HOFFMAN, *State Coordinator Committee for an Independent Voice*